

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
13 October 2005 (13.10.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/096567 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04L 12/56**,
12/14

2JA (GB). CAZALET, Sebastien [FR/FR]; 3 Rue du Four,
F-06620 Le Bar sur Loup (FR).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2005/001250

(74) Agent: **GEFFEN, Nigel, Paul**; PP: CSA, BT Centre, 81
Newgate Street, London Greater London EC1A 7AJ (GB).

(22) International Filing Date: 30 March 2005 (30.03.2005)

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ,
TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA,
ZM, ZW.

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0407144.5 30 March 2004 (30.03.2004) GB

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **BRITISH
TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC LIMITED
COMPANY** [GB/GB]; 81 Newgate Street, London
Greater London EC1A 7AJ (GB).

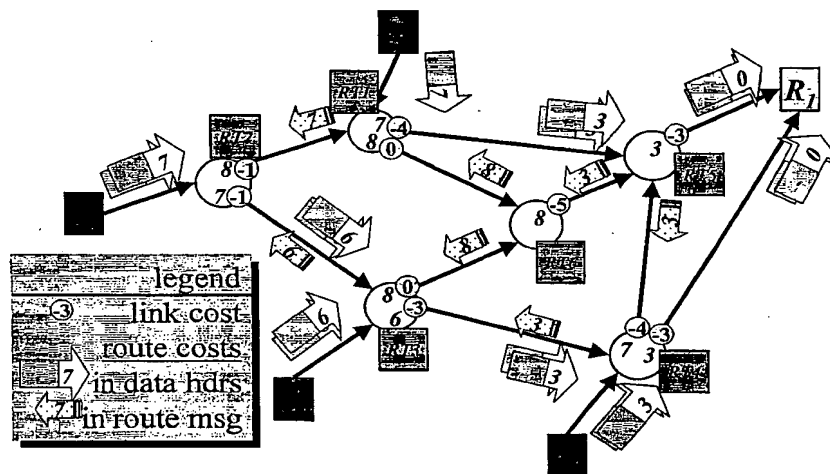
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BRISCOE, Robert,
John** [GB/GB]; Home Farm, Parham, Woodbridge Suffolk
IP13 9NW (GB). **JACQUET, Arnaud** [FR/GB]; 49 Ceme-
tery Road, Ipswich Suffolk IP4 2JA (GB). **SOPPERA, An-
drea** [IT/GB]; 49 Cemetery Road, Ipswich Suffolk IP4

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,
GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: TREATMENT OF DATA IN NETWORKS



Routing using Path Characterisation Information

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to data networks, to nodes making up parts of data networks, and to information relating to the characterisation of paths taken by data travelling between nodes in the networks. Path characterisation information is arranged to be conveyed to nodes such that it may be used by nodes subsequently forwarding data. In particular the invention relates to nodes receiving such path characterisation information from upstream nodes, deriving therefrom information indicative of characteristics of a path downstream of said nodes, and using such information to make informed decisions such as routing decisions when forwarding data onward in data networks.



Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.